



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

LEYDIG VOIT & MAYER LTD.
TWO PRUDENTIAL PLAZA
SUITE 4900
180 NORTH STETSON AVENUE
CHICAGO IL 60601-6731

MAILED

NOV 04 2011

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:
Yu, et al.	:
Application No. 09/589,288	:
Filed: June 8, 2000	:
Attorney Docket Number: 702041	:
	ON REQUEST FOR
	RECONSIDERATION OF
	PATENT TERM ADJUSTMENT

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.705(b), October 25, 2011. Applicants believe that the PTA should be accorded an additional two hundred thirteen (213) days. Applicants request this correction on the basis that the Office has not issued a patent within four months of the payment of the issue fee.

As the instant application for patent term adjustment requests reconsideration of the patent term adjustment solely as it relates to the Office's failure to timely issue the patent, the application for patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(b) is **DISMISSED as PREMATURE.**

Knowledge of the actual date the patent issues is required to calculate the amount, if any, of additional patent term Applicants are entitled to for Office failure to issue the patent within 4 months of issue fee transmittal. See § 1.703(a)(6). (This is true even where a request for continued examination (RCE) was filed). The computer will not undertake the § 1.703(a)(6) calculation until the actual date of issuance of the patent has been determined. Likewise, the computer will not calculate any further Office delay under § 1.702(a)(4) or applicant delay under § 1.704(c)(10) until the actual date of issuance of the patent has been determined. As such, the Office can not make a determination on the correctness of the patent term adjustment until the patent has issued.

Requesting reconsideration of the patent term adjustment to be indicated on the patent under 37 CFR 1.705(b) based on the initial determination of patent term adjustment and a projected issuance date of the patent (or even the filing date of the request for continued examination) is premature. Accordingly, it is appropriate to dismiss as premature such a request.

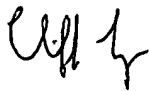
Rather than file a request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(b) contesting the 37 CFR 1.702(b) calculation at the time of the mailing of the notice of allowance, applicants are advised that they may wait until the time of the issuance of the patent and file a request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment pursuant to 37 CFR 1.705(d). As the USPTO does not calculate the amount of time earned pursuant to 37 CFR 1.703(a)(6) until the time of the issuance of the patent, the Office will consider any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment due to an error in the calculation of 37 CFR 1.703(a)(6) to be timely if the request for reconsideration is filed within two months of the issuance of the patent. However, as to all other bases for contesting the initial determination of patent term adjustment received with the notice of allowance, applicants must timely file an application for patent term adjustment prior to the payment of the issue fee¹.

In view thereof, the correct determination of PTA prior to issuance is **one thousand nine hundred ninety-one (1991) days**.

Receipt of the \$200.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.18(e) is acknowledged.

The application is being forwarded to the Office of Data Management for issuance of the patent.

Telephone inquiries specific to this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3207.



Cliff Congo
Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

¹ For example, if applicant disputes both the calculation of patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.702(a)(1) for Office failure to mail a first Office action or notice of allowance not later than fourteen months after the date on which the application was filed and under 37 CFR 1.702(b) for Office failure to issue a patent within three years of the actual filing date of the application, then applicant must still timely file an application for patent term adjustment prior to the payment of the issue fee to contest the calculation of Office delay in issuing a first Office action or notice of allowance. See 37 CFR 1.705(b) and 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B). A dispute as to the calculation of the §1.702(a)(1) period raised on request for reconsideration of patent term adjustment under 37 CFR 1.705(d) will be dismissed as untimely filed.